

paragraph, in paragraph 2, (3) withdrew rejection of claim 3 for indefiniteness in paragraph 3, and (4) rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (a and e) in paragraph 5. Applicant thanks Examiner for the Examiner's stance on paragraphs 1 and 3 on the first and second pages of this response. Beginning on page one, this response specifically traversed Examiner's paragraph 2 rejection. Beginning on page two, this response specifically traversed Examiner's paragraph 5 rejection. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that this response is consistent with the requirements of MPEP § 714.02.

MPEP § 608.01(o) states that examiners should ensure that the terms and phrases used in claims presented late in prosecution of the application find clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description. As previously mentioned, the Office Action dated February 14, 2006 rejects claims 1 and 6-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph in paragraph 2, and this response specifically traversed Examiner's rejection. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that this response is in line with MPEP § 608.01(o).

Applicant submits that the pending objections and rejections have been adequately addressed and respectfully requests allowance of the pending application.

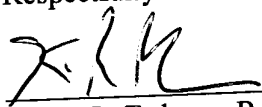
CONCLUSION

In light of the above arguments, applicant believes that the application is in allowable form and action toward that end is respectfully requested. If any issues remain that can be resolved by telephone, Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Appl. No. 10/735,144
Amdt. dated May 15, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 14, 2006
Page 5 of 5

In the event that applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 02-0390, BAKER & DANIELS LLP.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 
Kevin R. Erdman, Reg. No. 33,687

KJS:jk


Enclosure: Return Postcard

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

May 15, 2006

By: 
Kevin R. Erdman